NOTE IV.

ON KERIVOULA PICTA (PALLAS) AND DESCRIPTION OF A NEW BAT FROM PARAMARIBO

BY

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Dr. M. Greshoff, Director of the Colonial Museum at Haarlem, entrusted to me the other day some exotic Bats for identification. Among them there was a specimen from the West-Indies, apparently belonging to a hitherto undescribed species, besides a specimen of the splendid *Kerivoula picta* from Sumatra, Deli; it is the first specimen of this species I ever saw from this locality. Like the above mentioned specimens this, too concerning the habitat, so interesting individual forms now part of our collections thanks to the kindness of Dr. Greshoff.

Kerivoula picta (Pallas).

Although there is no perceptible difference between the Sumatra-Bat and its fellows from the Indian Continent, Ceylon and Java, I thought it right to fix the attention on Sumatra as locality; I take advantage of this opportunity to support the generic title *Kerivoula*, having grown unstable in the latest years. The short history of the thing is as follows:

1767. Pallas described the species under the name *Vespertilio pictus* in his pithy latin: »Ceylona et e Moluccana »Archipelago parvula adferri solet *Vespertilionis* species,

»quam jure ob fasciatas secundum digitos alas *V. pictum* »vocaveris, et cui Ceylonense *Kiriwoula* nomen esse accepi."

1777. Erxleben wrote *Kiriwula.*

1785. Boddaert called the species *Vespertilio Kiriwoula.*

1842. Gray created the genus *Kerivoula,* apparently giving a wrong turn to Pallas' *Kiriwoula.*

1852. Kelaart accepted Gray's genus under correction of *Kerivoula* in *Kerivoulha*; after him however the Singhalese name is *Kehel-voulha,* which means *the plaintain bat,* as *Kehel* = plaintain and *Voulha* = a bat; he cannot understand why and wherefore Gray adopted the term »Kerivoulha" as a generic name, for there are no bats in Ceylon called by the Singhalese *Kerivoulha,* which means *milky bat*; he therefore thinks it better to change Gray's generic name into *Kehel-voulha* or some other appropriate term. Kelaart wrote his »Prodromus faunae ceylanicae" in Ceylon and had no library at his disposal, therefore he could not know that Pallas used the name *Kiriwoula,* modified by Gray in *Kerivoula.*

1888—91. Blanford changed Gray's name without any comment in *Cerivoula.*

As the latter orthography lately has been followed by other english-writing authors, it seems to me indicated to observe that the correctly written generic name would be *Kehelvoulha,* that however according to the rule of priority this name cannot stand, so that *Kerivoula* should generally be accepted, meanwhile there is no reason at all to write that generic title with a *c.*

By the way I fix the attention to an interesting biological observation, published in 1900 by Mr. Stanley S. Flower, in the P. Z. S. L. p. 347, namely that Mr. Phra Ong Chow Sye Sanitwongse wrote to him the following note concerning a specimen of *Kerivoula picta* »Orange-colored »bat from a Swamp called Bang Falari at the Rangsit »Canal: *it sleeps in the flower of the Cala Lilly.*" It sounds like a wonderful tale, a golden and red and black colored bat sleeping in a Lilly-flower!

Description of the new West-Indian Bat:

Vesperus mélanopterus, n. sp.

The type-specimen is an alcoholic fullgrown female.

Ears laid forwards the tips do extend not farther than the eyes; internal basal lobe sharply pointed about half way the tragus, rounded at its base with a slow bow to the rounded off tip; outer margin with a nearly imperceptible emargination beneath the tip, ending near the angle of the mouth in a small hairy lobe; tragus rather attenuated, inner margin straight, outer margin slightly curved, with a sloping excavation opposite its base.

Thumb and feet small; wings to the base of the toes. Tail ending in a well developed projecting tip. Termination of calcaneum indistinct, with a narrow cutaneous margin.

Fur above sooty brown light brown tipped, beneath base of hairs black, the extremities white; wings black.

Outer upper incisors very small, scarcely perceptible without the aid of a lens, crushed in between the canines and the inner incisors; the latter more than half the size of the canines, bicuspidate, anterior cusp the highest. Lower incisors deeply trifid, placed rather across of the jaws. Upper premolar very developed, much more than half the size of the strong canine; lower premolars crowded, the first not half the height of the second premolar, which hardly exceeds the anterior lower molar in vertical extent.

Dentition $\frac{2-2}{6}+\frac{1}{1}+\frac{1}{2}+\frac{3}{3}$.

		mm.
ear		12.5
tragus		6
forearm		40
second finger	37 + 4	= 41
third »	39 + 15 + 13 + 7	= 74
fourth »	37 + 13 + 10	= 60
fifth »	37 + 9 + 7	= 53
tibia		16
tail		43

Habitat: Dutch West-Indies, Surinam, Paramaribo.